



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2023, No. 7

July 2023

June Happenings

June was a very active time for the San Antonio Radio Club. We had two major events within a week of each other, Radio Fiesta and Field Day. Both were a success thanks to the efforts of Aubrey Mason, WA6DMI, who headed up the effort for Radio Fiesta and Jon April, KI5CSK, who took charge of the details for Field Day. Let's not forget the members who stepped up to volunteer for both activities, truly a total club effort.

Radio Fiesta, June 16-17, 2023

After some pretty nice weather through May, in June nature turned on the furnace in South Texas. Friday and Saturday saw temperatures in the high 90s or low 100s. Fortunately most of the activity was inside the air-conditioned Schertz Community Center. Attendance was down a bit from previous years and the heat may have had something to do with that. One attendee was overheard to say he wished the event would be moved back to January where it was cooler.

Not all tables were sold. One person had a last-minute health issue and donated the tables he'd bought back to the club.

Aubrey reports there were 49 volunteers over the two day event who handled everything from ticket sales to raffle and security in addition to helping vendors and attendees with information.

The next meeting, July 13, 2023, will be at 7 PM at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216, (210) 251-2602 . Raffle for Radio Fiesta Volunteers present



. Thanks to the vendors and manufacturers who donated items for door prizes. Attendance was about 400. The Clemens High School cheerleaders did a fine job as usual providing snacks, drinks



and goodies both days. They even put items on a cart and took the food to the hams who were busy selling and buying on the main floor.

Special events were held in the gym, including a VE testing session.

(Continued on Page 6)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
7	R		N5IUT		San Antonio, TX		July 2023
TO							

Hello South Texas,

June 2023 was just pure fun!

Texas Water Safari

Did anyone work radios supporting the Texas Water Safari? I spoke to people that helped along the Guadalupe River during and they had a good time keeping the people safe and tracked. This is a very tough race and some have died trying to canoe from San Marcos, Texas to Seadrift, Texas (156 miles in 100 hours or less). <https://www.texaswatersafari.org/>

Radio Fiesta

Radio Fiesta was great! We are working with the venue to get a good date next year but we might have to move it a bit.

Field Day 2023

This was the best attended Field Day in the history of the club. It was the most points and contacts that we have had in over 20 years. How was this accomplished? It was you! Everyone that helped out in any way, I thank you.

When I pulled up at Field Day around 5:30 AM Sunday morning, I was excited to see all of the cars in the parking lot. Next year, more tacos for breakfast and BBQ for dinner!

At Field Day, everyone was learning! Many people explored new modes, figured out how to work a contest and dug through manuals to find all of the needed radio settings.

I hope to see everyone at the July meeting!

73

Paul, N5IUT, President

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:



Paul Guido N5IUT
President, San Antonio Radio Club
Jimmie Neff, WJ4M
Editor
210-563-2121
jineffjr@sbcglobal.net

The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month

San Antonio Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

7:00 p. m., June 8, 2023

Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, TX 78216

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm//Pledge of Allegiance//Introductions

Presentation – Lloyd Schwartz – None – Discussion about Field Day and Radio Fiesta instead.

Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting

There being no changes, additions, or deletions, minutes were approved without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President – Paul Guido, N5IUT – Cyber security conference at St. Mary’s University this coming weekend. \$40 for the day. <https://www.bsidessatx.com/>

Vice President – Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW – No report.

Secretary – Jack Bannin N5JLB – Minutes from club meetings can be found at the w5sc.org website, in the Newsletters section.

Chairman of the Board Report – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS – There were no physical or virtue meetings of the Board since last month so there is nothing to report. A meeting will probably be held in August to review the budget year to date after our two big events in June 2023 have been paid.

Treasurer – Jon April KI5CSK – purchased a budget-approved Field Day 2kw generator. (\$385), paid for the business insurance (\$200); gave current status of scholarship ticket sales. Paid for Radio Fiesta t-shirts.

Education and Training – David Finell, N7LRY – No report.

Emergency Communications – JC Smith N5RXS – Encouraged members to join ARES and/or RACES. Must be in the system in order to participate in an emergency. RACES supports the government side, while ARES tends to handle everything else. New HF antennas scheduled to be installed at the Emergency Operations Center soon.

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ – As of DATE: 5/31/23

Paid 142	New Members for 2023		
Free / Mil 7	First	Last	Call
Family Members 19	Lloyd P.	Hendrick	KI5UWY
ARRL Members 100	Hiram T.	Hendrick	KI5UTP
	Patricia	Colley	KI7IEE
	Julio F.	Torres-O'Neill	
	Loyd	Stewart	KI5AYP
Total membership 167			

Newsletter Editor – Jimmie Neff – Newsletter distributed on June 7, 2023. Let him know if there is a topic you would like to see covered in the newsletter.

Webmaster – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ –

1. Web Site-
 - a. Posted newsletters
 - b. Updated Radio Fiesta pages
 - c. Created Balloon page
 - d. Created POTA page
2. Groups.io – Club's primary method of mass communication
 - a. Updated membership list
 - b. Updated calendar
3. Mail chimp- Meeting notice, Radio Fiesta Notice to all area clubs, Field Day media blast
4. Twitter
5. Facebook -Meeting notice

POTA - Jon April KI5CSK – Likely will have another in the fall.

Field Day – Jon April KI5CSK – presented on Field Day that will occur on 24-25th June 2023 In Shavano Park, as usual. Additional volunteers needed. Contact Jon if you want to be on the antenna plan. Food will be provided at 6 PM Saturday from Blanco BBQ and breakfast tacos on Sunday morning at 8 AM. No need to bring a radio to participate. The club and individuals will have radios and antennas available for sharing. We will have four HF stations working on generator power, plus a VHF/UHF Get on the Air (GOTA) station. Radio operations begin at 1 PM local time.

Fox Hunt – Travis Few – There will be no Fox Hunt in June due to Field Day.

Finance and Review – No report.

JOTA – John Douglas W5NZK – No report.

Centennial Committee – Tom O’Brien AB5XZ – No report.

Radio Fiesta – Aubrey Mason – Volunteers needed. Volunteers receive free entry for each day of volunteering and a free T-shirt and a raffle ticket. Bill Craft presented information and details about the event. Individual and corporate vendors will be selling many different items. Food/drinks will be available for sale. Venue: municipal complex in Schertz, TX. Testing/presentations will be in the gymnasium. Sales in the main building. On Saturday, individuals will be selling items in the parking lot (“tailgating”). Raffle tickets will be available for sale for a grand prize and other prizes. Prizes include HF radio, HTs, soldering station, cash gift cards. Don’t have to be present to win. Note: no ATMs at the facility or within walking distance, so bring cash for purchases (other than scholarship raffle tickets and SK equipment sales, which can be purchased with credit/debit cards). Details available at: <https://w5sc.org/radio-fiesta-2023-information/>. Entry: \$15 when purchased in advance via website. In person/same-day tickets: \$20. Some discounts are available for active-duty military in uniform, Boy Scouts.

VE Team – Benny Martinez, NU5P – No testing since last meeting. Next testing at Radio Fiesta, then the following week at Field Day.

Silent Key Committee – Rodney Brown, AA5RB – Had a lot of activity since last meeting. Reported on recent sales, which have been quite good.

Monthly Activities – Travis Few, N9EOD – There will be a High-Altitude Balloon Launch at 0700 on 24 June at Kitty Hawk Flying Field. Please come out and join us for the launch. The balloon will be transmitting as N9EOD-11. We should be done before Field Day starts.

Executive – No report.

Election Committee – Paul Guido, N5IUT – No report.

Scholarship Committee: Jon April – No updates.

Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings) – None

New Business – None

Announcements: None

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:30 PM

June Happenings (Continued from Page 1)

Radio Fiesta Prize Winners

Grand Prize: ICOM IC-718 HF All Band Transceiver, 100W\
Royce Bell - KX7Q - San Antonio, TX picked up

2nd Prize: Yaesu FTM-6000R Dual Band FM Mobile TransceiverTom Scott N5GIT - - Schertz, Tx picked up

3rd Prize: Baofeng UV-5RX3 5W Tri-band 2M (*)Byrne, Paul S, K5CIP San Antonio, TX 78247

4th Prize: Baofeng UV-9G - GMRS GMRS IP67 Waterproof Radio (*)
Laubach, Walter r, KA5HQU Leon Valley, Tx 78240-3335

5th Prize: Baofeng GT5R 4W/1W Dual Band Radio (*)
Bower, Gerald D, KI5RRH Garden Ridge, TX 78266

6th Prize:Baofeng UV-5RTP 8W/4W/1W Dual Band (*)

Paul Guido donated to VE testing

7th Prize: ToAuto DS90 Soldering Station 110V

Cater, Brian E, KC5YSM Port Neches, TX 77651

Note: Handhelds generously donated by Baofeng **(Continued on Page)**

Thanks to all the hams who attended Radio Fiesta the vendors, the volunteers, cheerleaders and the City of Schertz for the use of the convention center.

Field Day, June 24-25, 2023



June 24 dawned clear and hot. The setup crew met early at the storage location and

loaded up the antenna trailer with the cables, antennas and other equipment needed for Field Day. The Field Day planners had determined that the large, gas-hungry generators were not needed and that two smaller, 2 KW inverter generators would provide all the power required. In addition to being more fuel-miserly, the generators are much quieter and can be placed nearer the action.



The Field Day site was again at the Shavano Park government complex on Military Highway. We again enjoyed the pavilion there graciously loaned by Shavano Park. They have supported SARC Field Day for several years. By noon things were set up and ready to go with our usual 4 HF stations running on generator power. Our exchange was W5SC, 4A, South Texas.

Jon April and the Field Day planners had advised operators to bring personal fans to help ward off the heat. The club had multiple coolers with iced down water bottles so operators and attendees could stay hydrated.



The two huge overhead fans in the pavilion kept a good breeze going, adding to the natural breeze that seemed to keep up most of the day. It made the day bearable.



Volunteer Examiners at Work



June was a busy month for the VE team.

Radio Fiesta VE results:

We had 19 people take the tests. Results were:

Tech 5, General 10, Extra 2

Field Day VE Results:

We had 9 people take the tests. Results were:

3 passed Tech

1 passed Tech and general

5 passed General

1 passed Extra

Bennie Martinez, NU5P

-...-

RF Exposure Rules

On May 3, 2021, new FCC rules governing RF exposure evaluations went into effect. While the exposure limits were not changed, the requirement to conduct an evaluation was made more broadly applicable to amateur licensees. A 2-year transition period was implemented to allow existing amateur licensees to conduct evaluations and make any changes necessary to ensure that their station complies with the exposure rules. **On May 3, 2023, the transition period ended. All licensees must now conduct evaluations of their current station and reassess compliance when making changes to their stations that would affect exposure going forward.**

The ARRL website features an RF Exposure landing page with resources, such as an RF exposure calculator, the entire RF Safety section from the 100th Edition of the ARRL The Handbook, a video explaining the topic, FAQs about the subject, and more. These tools and resources are available to the public without an ARRL membership or website account

-...-



SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

If you haven't signed up for group.io, you should. Groups.io is our primary email messaging method to all club members. It is FREE for all members.

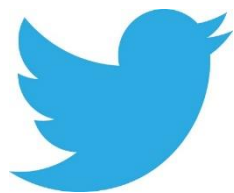
Several members have asked where are the notices, schedules and codes for Zoom meetings?

1. The groups.io calendar has a schedule of Zoom meetings and access codes.
2. The calendar can be accessed directly from the club web site <https://w5sc.org/events-calendar/> NOTE: it is the same groups.io calendar.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Pa



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

JOTA

Club members participated in JOTA and JOTI the largest Scouting event in the world at McGimsey Scout Park with the Alamo Area BSA on Saturday October 16, 2022. Volunteers set up several stations including mobile installations and allowed scouts to contact stations as far away as England. There will be a JOTA 2023.

Amateur Radio License Classes

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2023

January 12, 2023
February 9, 2023
March 9, 2023
April 13, 2023
May 11, 2023
June 8, 2023
July 13, 2023
August 10, 2023
September 14, 2023
October 12, 2023
November 9, 2022
December – No meeting

Meetings are normally held at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p. m. for supper

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Radio Fiesta 2024

Radio Fiesta 2023 was a success. The venue will not be available in June next year, but watch this page for information about Radio Fiesta 2024.

License Testing Dates for 2023

Next date: August 26 12-2pm
at Leon Valley Public Library,
6425 Evers RD
Leon Valley, TX 78238

Please pre-register at hamtest@w5sc.org

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) organization so all of the Volunteer Examiners in SARC are duly authorized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency communications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS 210-522-6167

Field Day 2023

Field Day exercise, June 24 – 25 was at the City of Shavano Park city hall for the twentieth year. *Where SARC proves they are an eating group with a radio problem.* Start thinking about Field Day 2024!.